

**Enhanced Fertilizer Consumption due to  
Reduction in Price**

2444. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether reduction in the prices of fertilizers announced by Government will result in an enhanced rate of growth in fertilizer consumption in the country and consequent rise in agricultural production;

(b) if so, to what extent the reduction in prices of fertilizers has helped the farmers: and

(c) by what time the results of the same will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir, an increase in fertilizer consumption is expected as a result of the price reduction. This should also result in increased agricultural production provided wheather conditions remain favourable.

(b) It has helped the farmer by improving the cost-benefit ratio. Whereas prior to the price reduction on 29.6.83, 4.19 kg. of Paddy were needed to buy one kg. of Nitrogen nutrient, only 3.54 kg. will be needed as a result of the reduction in price of Fertilisers and enhancement of the support price of Paddy.

(c) The impact of price reduction would be felt during the coming months, since the price reduction was ordered only on 29.6.1983.

**Conference of Chairmen/Commissioners of  
State Housing Boards held in Bhopal**

2445. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :  
SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Conference of Chairmen and Commissioners and State Housing Boards held in Bhopal recently

criticised the credit policy of the Reserve Bank and pleaded for greater credit facilities for housing schemes, particularly those meant for the poor.

(b) the names of the States participated;

(c) what other suggestions were made; and

(d) the action taken by Government to settle problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) : (a) to (d) The Conference had been organised by Madhya Pradesh Griha Nirman Mandal, an undertaking of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. This Ministry has no information about the items discussed in the conference. The proceedings of the conference have also not been received by this Ministry.

**Import of edible oil**

2446. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the quantity of edible oil likely to be imported during the year 1983-84 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M.S. SANJEEVI RAO) : The quantum of edible oils to be imported each year is decided by the Government taking into consideration the demand for and production of indigenous oils in the country, foreign exchange availability and international prices etc. The quantum of import of edible oils during 1983-84 oil year commencing from November, 1983 will be taken at the appropriate time.

**Cost Structure on the Production of Wheat**

2447. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the cost structure